

POLICY FOR THE STATE AND THE BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT, AND BECAUSE OF THE NATURE AND SIZE OF THE FISCAL COMMITMENT OF THE STATE TO THE MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM IN THAT TRANSIT DISTRICT, AND BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANT POLICY QUESTIONS INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DESIRES TO HAVE A JOINT COMMITTEE OF BOTH HOUSES TO INDEPENDENTLY REVIEW, EVALUATE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO [[THE GOVERNOR AND]] THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITH RESPECT TO THE MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM IN THAT TRANSIT DISTRICT. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL SUBMIT MASS TRANSIT PLANS FOR THAT TRANSIT DISTRICT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR ITS REVIEW AND EVALUATION AND THAT THE COMMITTEE SHALL FORWARD ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

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(A) A COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON METROPOLITAN MASS TRANSIT", IS CREATED. THE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF TEN MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. FIVE MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND FIVE MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES. THE CHAIRMAN SHALL BE APPOINTED JOINTLY BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE SPEAKER.

(B) THE COMMITTEE SHALL REVIEW, EVALUATE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM IN THE BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT.

(C) THE COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE THE STAFF ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING A QUALIFIED CONSULTANT AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BUDGET.

(D) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND ALL OTHER STATE AGENCIES SHALL COOPERATE WITH THE COMMITTEE AND ITS STAFF.

(E) THE COMMITTEE REVIEW, EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

(1) SAFETY AND SECURITY FACTORS;

(2) ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS;

(3) FISCAL IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING ANY PROJECTED OPERATING DEFICITS;

(4) [[RESPONSIVENESS]] ABILITY OF THE SYSTEM [[IN MEETING]] TO MEET TRANSPORTATION NEEDS INCLUDING [[A]] PEAK PERIOD DEMAND [[ANALYSIS]];

(5) THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE SYSTEM WHICH WOULD ENCOURAGE PASSENGER UTILIZATION;